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## Proposed Revenue Budget 2008-09

### **Interest – Taxes**

An \$800 reduction is proposed in this line based on the actual amount collected in FY 07. The problem we're finding with this line is that people are paying their taxes on time (not a bad problem to have). We have fewer unpaid bills and liens this year, thus a lower amount of interest expected.

### **Auto Excise**

We saw a slight slowdown in the amount of excise tax collected last year, and though we were over budget, there were times during the year that we were under the projected amount collected. The proposed figure is \$5,000 higher than the current budget, a very modest increase.

### **Boat Excise Taxes**

The amount proposed is higher than the current budget by \$800 based on the amount collected in FY 2007. For some reason this line tends to fluctuate a bit.

### **Tax Lien Charges**

This line matches the proposed Administrative Expense line for liens. It's pretty close to what was collected during FY 07. While the number of liens is a bit lower, the fees should be relatively stable.

### **Agent Fees**

We had a very good year for Agent Fees in FY 2007, but there is no particular explanation for that. The proposed budget is up \$300, but \$400 less than the actual for FY 07.

### **Revenue Sharing**

There is no estimate on what revenue sharing will be for FY 09. We came up about \$315 short based on a new state cap for revenue sharing in FY 08. We've seen this line drop, and a 10% reduction is being budgeted at this time.

### **General Assistance Reimbursement**

This line is based on 50% of the proposed General Assistance expenditure budget. Because GA is expected to rise, the revenue from the state (50% reimbursement) should rise accordingly.

### **Interest – Investments**

Our investments did very well last year. The proposed figure is \$9,000 higher than the current year budget. We actually collected about \$10,000 more than that in FY 2007.

**Gravel Sales** – No gravel sales are expected in FY 2009

**Capital Projects Fund** – At this point, no appropriation is proposed from this fund. Currently the fund has nearly \$125,000 in an interest bearing account. We hit this fund hard in the current year budget for the salt/sand shed. There might be an appropriate use of this for a new telephone system for the town hall, renovations to the town hall, and the new road into Bloomfield Park once those are plugged into the expenditure side of the budget. This line should be moved out of the general fund portion, and I will do that for the next round.

**Surplus Use** – The audited fund balance is \$458,339.01. We have appropriated \$147,125 from surplus for the current fiscal year, leaving \$311,214.01 expected at year's end. The proposed \$13,000 use would bring the surplus account down to about \$300,000. I expect to end the year with \$380,000 in cash and investments available, and would not be uncomfortable using up to \$80,000 for this line. This will be the key to any property tax increase for the municipal budget.

**Education** – These figures will be supplied by the school department

**CEO Fees** – No change is proposed from the current fiscal year. The amount proposed is \$1,600 less than the 5-year average. We have noticed a significant reduction in the amount of building going on in town.

**CEO Fund Transfer** – Nothing is proposed to transfer from this fund. At the end of FY 07 there was a little over \$12,000 in the fund. \$3,000 was appropriated for FY 08. It's my recommendation that we hold off on hitting this fund until such time as building activity starts to pick up again.

**Plumbing Fees** – Though the 5-year average is nearly \$4,000, we only collected \$2,583 in FY 07. That's a sign of a significant housing construction slow down. The amount budgeted is based on the FY 07 amount actually collected.

**Total CEO** – this amount has been reduced by \$4,000 due to the building activity slow down.

**Dump Closing Fund** – This fund has been closed because it was exhausted.

**Road Assistance** – The amount budgeted is based on the actually amount for FY 07.

**Road Fund Use** – At this point no appropriation from this fund is proposed. We have \$15,700 in this fund as of the end of FY 07 with \$4,000 appropriated for FY 08.

**Salt/Sand Shed Reserve** – We've built the building and exhausted the fund. No appropriation is warranted.

**Portable Classroom Rental** – The classrooms belong to the school department. There is about \$6,200 available in the maintenance fund that was built up over the past several years go take care of the classrooms. We might want to discuss what to do with that money. The Selectmen approved letting the school department use \$500 this year for some repairs that were needed.

**Revaluation Reserve** – No appropriation is warranted

**Land Search Encumbrance** – No appropriation is warranted at this time. There has been a brief discussion in looking at the land across the road from the town hall for availability, but as of now nothing has been done.

**Parks & Recreation Fund** – We've not received any proposal as of yet to utilize this fund. The Parks folks are to meet with you in December.

**Cable TV Revenues** – The Cable TV franchise fees were about \$7,000 last year. This has been put into the Cable TV fund and more than offsets the budget.

**Animal Control Fees** – We had a big year for dog registrations last year – lots of late fees and a very aggressive collection process by the ACO. No change is proposed in the revenue of \$1,000 from FY 08, though the 5-year average has been \$1,318. Unsure if there is a greater number of dogs in town, though the state has started to send all rabies certificates which will make enforcement of unlicensed dogs even easier!

**Total Town Revenue** – The municipal side is down \$307,807.98. All of this is due to less use of surplus, salt/sand shed and the capital improvement fund (\$309,000 total).

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Treasurer